

ABSTRACT

5 Data storage format for storing topography data associated with
an object includes a first section for storing topography data in relation to a
reference entity with respect to which the topography data is measured or
calculated, a second section for storing information concerning the reference
entity, and a third section for storing information concerning the topography
10 direction along which the topography data is measured or calculated. Data is
stored in the data storage format by determining reference entity with respect
to which the topography data is measured or calculated, obtaining information
regarding the reference entity and storing that information in a second section
of the data storage format, obtaining information corresponding to the
topography direction along which the topography data is measured or
15 calculated and storing that information in a third section of the data storage
format, and storing topography data in a first section of the data storage
format. Data stored in the data storage format is utilized for registering and
fusing topography data to other data.